Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
Since 1982
for Delmarva History and Culture
We're History...Without You!

Shoreline

Vol. 16, Issue 12, December 2009

An Eastern Shore Holiday: Events

"An Eastern Shore Holiday: Greetings and Gifts" Exhibit
November 30-December 18
10 a.m.-2 p.m., MWF or contact the Nabb Research Center at 410-543-6312 for an appointment.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
Using a wide variety of Victorian postcards with their sentimental greetings and variant views of Christmas and its symbols as a backdrop, the Nabb Research Center presents a changing view of the holiday season and gift giving from 1880-1920. The Wicomico Historical Society's vast collection of toys and household artifacts demonstrates clearly how the relative affluence of Victorian society encouraged a preoccupation with visible displays of possessions and wealth. For the first time, many Americans had leisure time, providing an opportunity for gift giving and displays of that newfound wealth. Toys became more elaborate and much more numerous than in previous periods. For those in "Newtown" and Camden Avenue's "Millionaire's Row" in Salisbury, wealth was evident in the choices of objects with which people decorated their homes. This exhibit provides a glance back into a bygone time, with its love of conspicuous consumption. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

Holiday Open House and Exhibit Opening
Wednesday, December 2, 4-6 p.m.
Nabb Research Center Reading Room and Gallery
Please visit the Reading Room to see the rich variety of historical resources available for research. Join the Nabb staff and volunteers in our new gallery space to celebrate the opening of "An Eastern Shore Holiday: Greetings and Gifts" exhibit.

"Sources of Black Community: Faith and Family" Exhibit
January 16-February 28
1-4 p.m., MWF or contact the Nabb Research Center at 410-543-6312 for an appointment.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
This exhibit examines family connections and the role of religious institutions among Delmarva's African Americans. Co-curated by L. Paul Morris Jr., this exhibit is free and open to the public.

"African-American Family History" Workshop
Saturday, January 23, 10 a.m-1 p.m.
Nabb Research Center Reading Room
The unique challenges of researching African-American family histories will be discussed. Share your research interests! This event is free and open to the public. Contact the Nabb Center at 410-543-6312 for reservations; seating will be limited.

"Men of Color to Arms" Lecture
Saturday, February 6, 2-4 p.m.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
SU History Professor Clara Small and the Reverend David Briddell will comment on their newly published book, *Men of Color to Arms: Manumitted Slaves and Free Blacks from the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland Who Served in the Civil War.* The presentation will be followed by a book signing. This event is free and open to the public.

"African-American Education: Rosenwald Schools" Program
Wednesday, February 17, 7 p.m.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
This program will showcase the preservation efforts of three area Rosenwald schools—San Domingo, Wetipquin and Germantown—and discuss other early segregated schools of Delmarva. Moderated by author and local historian Linda Duyer, this event is free and open to the public.

"African-American Soldiers in WWI" A Presentation by SU Professor Stephen C. Gehnrich
Wednesday, March 10, 7 p.m.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
This presentation will describe how and why African Americans joined the U. S. Army during World War I, the roles they played in the ultimate victory, and how their service was viewed in post-war America. Particular mention will be made of Salisbury's Sgt. William A. Butler, "Maryland's Greatest Hero." This event is free and open to the public.

"A Portrait of an Eastern Shore Woman" Exhibit
March 22-May 18
1-4 p.m. MWF or contact the Nabb Research Center at 410-543-6312 for an appointment.
Nabb Research Center Gallery
Clara Gunby, a feisty Eastern Shore woman, was accused of treason for spying for the Confederacy. When the war ended, she returned to the Salisbury area. The Nabb Center joins with Poplar Hill Mansion in displaying Gunby's diaries and a series of seldom-seen oil paintings, providing a window into mid-19th century education and culture. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

Nabb Research Center Annual Fundraising Event
Saturday, May 1
Home of Tom Shelton, owner and vintner, at Bordeleau Vineyards and Winery

What's New?

In December we will publish our bi-annual *Shoreline*, the long-anticipated architecture issue. Filled with articles, photographs and drawings of many of Delmarva's historic structures, both grand and humble, it is a labor of love for our staff and many of our members. Please watch for it in your holiday mail.

Because of the popularity of our bi-annual expanded *Shoreline*, the smaller, monthly edition will be undergoing a re-design beginning February 2010. It will be published less often and will have more in-depth feature articles.

Important Membership Notice

We have adjusted our annual memberships so that they expire a year after they begin (previously they expired at the end of December, regardless of when a member joined). To determine when your membership expires, please check the upper right corner of the mailing label on your *Shoreline*. Many annual memberships are due to expire at the end of December. Please help the Nabb Research Center save postage by renewing your membership early. Remember, memberships are considered tax-deductible donations!

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Holiday Closings

Please note that the Nabb Research Center will be closed November 25-27, December 21-January 2, and January 18.

"We're History...Without You"

Season's Greetings and Warm Wishes, from the volunteers and staff of the Nabb Research Center. Les Callette Collection.